

Application Serial No. 10/009,149
Amendment dated June 19, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated March 20, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring, said dust collecting head having an inlet opening arranged immediately behind the brush holder with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring;

said dust collecting head including means for guiding dust to the inlet opening.

Claim 22 (new): Electric machine according to claim 21 characterized in that the dust collecting head and the brush holder form a compact component.

Claim 23 (new): Electric machine according to claim 21 wherein a distance between the slip ring and the front edge of the dust collecting head is greater than a distance between the slip ring and a rear edge of the dust collecting head, wherein the front edge and the rear edge of the dust collecting head are respectively located with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring.

Claim 24 (new): Electric machine according to claim 21 characterized in that the brush dust collecting device comprises a collecting container for brush dust and that the dust collecting head has an outlet opening which is connected through a pipe or tube system with the collecting container.

Claim 25 (new): Electric machine according to claim 24 characterized in that the brush dust collecting device comprises a suction fan.

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Claim 26 (new): Electric machine according to claim 24, characterized in that the brush dust collecting device comprises a filter which is suited to retain brush dust in the collecting container.

Claim 27 (new): Electric machine according to claim 21, characterized in that the slip ring rotates in a direction about a vertical axis of rotation.

Claim 28 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring, said dust collecting head having an inlet opening arranged immediately behind the dust holder with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring;

the dust collecting head and the brush holder forming a compact component.

Claim 29 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring;

said dust collecting head including means for guiding dust to the inlet opening;

the dust collecting head and the brush holder forming a compact component.

Claim 30 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring;

said dust collecting head including means for guiding dust to the inlet opening;

a distance between the slip ring and a front edge of the dust collecting head

being greater than a distance between the slip ring and a rear edge of the dust collecting head,

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wherein the front edge and the rear edge of the dust collecting head are respectively located with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring.

Claim 31 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring;

the dust collecting head and the brush holder forming a compact component;

a distance between the slip ring and a front edge of the dust collecting head being greater than a distance between the slip ring and a rear edge of the dust collecting head, wherein the front edge and the rear edge of the dust collecting head are respectively located with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring.

Claim 32 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring, the dust collecting head including means for guiding dust to the inlet opening;

the brush dust collecting device comprising a collecting container for brush dust and the dust collecting head having an outlet opening which is connected through a pipe or tube system with the collecting container.

Claim 33 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring;

the dust collecting head and the brush holder forming a compact component;

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the brush dust collecting device comprising a collecting container for brush dust and the dust collecting head having an outlet opening which is connected through a pipe or tube system with the collecting container.

Claim 34 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring;

a distance between the slip ring and a front edge of the dust collecting head being greater than a distance between the slip ring and a rear edge of the dust collecting head, wherein the front edge and the rear edge of the dust collecting head are respectively located with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring;

the brush dust collection device comprising a collecting container for brush dust and the dust collecting head having an outlet opening which is connected through a pipe or tube system with the collecting container.

Claim 35 (new): Electric machine comprising:

a slip ring;

a brush holder; and

a brush dust collecting device including a dust collecting head arranged in immediate proximity to the slip ring, said dust collecting head having an inlet opening arranged immediately behind the brush holder with respect to a direction of rotation of the slip ring;

said dust collecting head including a dust guide located in proximity to the inlet opening.